

ER 8-3208A

2814/A

6 JUN 1956

The Honorable Warren G. Magnuson
Chairman, Committee on Interstate
and Foreign Commerce
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

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Dear Mr. Chairman:

I have given careful consideration to your letter of 17 May 1956 requesting a full report of the investigation currently underway concerning any violation of existing security regulations with respect to a visit of Soviet representatives to the State of Washington. You state the urgency of the need that immediate steps be taken by the Departments of State, Defense, Justice and the Central Intelligence Agency to close the State of Washington to Soviet representatives.

I regret if any misunderstanding has arisen concerning the function of the Central Intelligence Agency in an investigation relating to the possible closing of certain areas within the United States to Soviet representatives for reasons of internal security.

This Agency, under the National Security Act of 1947, is prohibited from exercising any internal security functions. Our mission is, therefore, a contributory one in matters of this kind, and consists of ensuring that pertinent intelligence information is passed on to those agencies of the Government who have responsibilities in the internal security field.

It is my understanding that the appropriate agencies within the Government are investigating the situation discussed in your letter, and that they will report directly to you on the matter.

Sincerely yours,

IG:NSP:fm (5 Jun 56)

Draft prepared by: os/p

Cleared by: *Rone*

Director

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles
Director

Distribution:

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN COMMERCE

8-2814

17 May 1956

Director of Central Intelligence Agency
Allen W. Dulles
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Mr. Dulles:

The urgency of immediate steps being taken by the Departments of State, Defense, Justice and Central Intelligence Agency to close the entire State of Washington to Soviet representatives, has been dramatically illustrated with the apparent ease by which two attaches of the Soviet Embassy during the past week have approached vital defense installations in my State.

It is inconceivable that the classification of closed areas has not extended already to the Olympic Peninsula which embraces the counties of Kitsap, Clallam, Grays Harbor, and Mason in view of the installations that section of my state contains.

In view of the fact that Lt. Ol. S.S. Fedorov, Assistant Naval Attache at the Russian Embassy and 1st Lt. I. P. Sakulkin announced their travel plans to the foreign liason officer at the Department of Defense in the Pentagon, the route outlined should have been a clear indication to every agency involved that more than a vacation trip must have been contemplated.

Let me recount the plans these men filed - two days in Bremerton, the strategic site of our only deep water naval base on the Pacific Coast which can handle every type ship in the American Navy; two days at Port Orchard from which one can get a closer look at activities in the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard; one day at Keyport, site of one of our most productive strategic production centers during World War II; one day at Bangor which is one of our most vital neaval ammunition depots on the Pacific Coast.

In addition, the travel plan of these two key Soviet representatives included a trip to Bellingham by car. Since Snohomish County is already classified as closed to Soviet representatives, we can only assume that they followed a course even closer to our Whidby Island base where the Department of Defense presently has an expansion program underway.

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Mr. Allen W. Dulles
17 May 1956

I am aware that as a result of excellent reporting by the Seattle Post Intelligencer the nation has been alerted fully of the seeming inadequacy of our present security program and the dangers posed. I have your promise that a thorough investigation is being made concerning any violation of existing security regulations, but I point out again that events of this nature re-emphasize the necessity of classifying the entire State of Washington as closed to visitors from Iron Curtain countries immediately.

I shall expect a full report of the investigation currently underway and of additional steps taken to bring all of our strategic national defense areas under the most complete security precautions possible.

Sincerely,


WARREN G. MAGNUSON, U. S. S.

WGM:Dis

8-3208

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Legislative Counsel

DATE: MAY 28 1956

FROM : Director of Security

SUBJECT: Visit of Soviet Officials to State of Washington

It is suggested that a reply to the enclosure might be made as follows:

Dear Senator Magnuson:

I have given careful consideration to your letter of 17 May 1956 requesting a full report of the investigation currently underway concerning any violation of existing security regulations with respect to a visit of Soviet representatives to the State of Washington. You state the urgency of the need for immediate steps being taken by the Departments of State, Defense, Justice and the Central Intelligence Agency to close the State of Washington to Soviet representatives.

relating to the possible closing in the State of Washington


The mission of this Agency is a contributory one in matters of this kind, and consists of insuring that pertinent intelligence information is passed on to those agencies of the Government who have responsibilities in the internal security field. It is my understanding that the appropriate agencies within the Government are investigating the situation discussed in your letter, and that they will report directly to you on the matter.

Sincerely,

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MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director

The inter-agency working group under NSC-5427, which relates to restrictions of movements of Soviet Diplomats, has been handling this matter. Justice has promised a full report of an FBI investigation, and the Department of State is also preparing a detailed report. The purpose of this letter is to make clear our peripheral interest in matters of this sort.


Norman S. Paul
Legislative Counsel

5 June 1956
(DATE)

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FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
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